



The President's Daily Brief

18 November 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 November 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Laos

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Yesterday's session of the strategic arms limitation talks is summarized on Page 2.

More additions to the gradual Soviet military build-up on the Chinese border appear in recent satellite photography. (Page 3)

Italian

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(Page 4)

Soviets

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Syria

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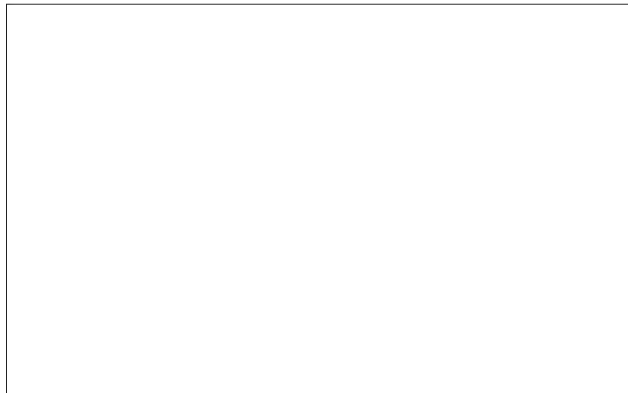
LAOS



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SALT

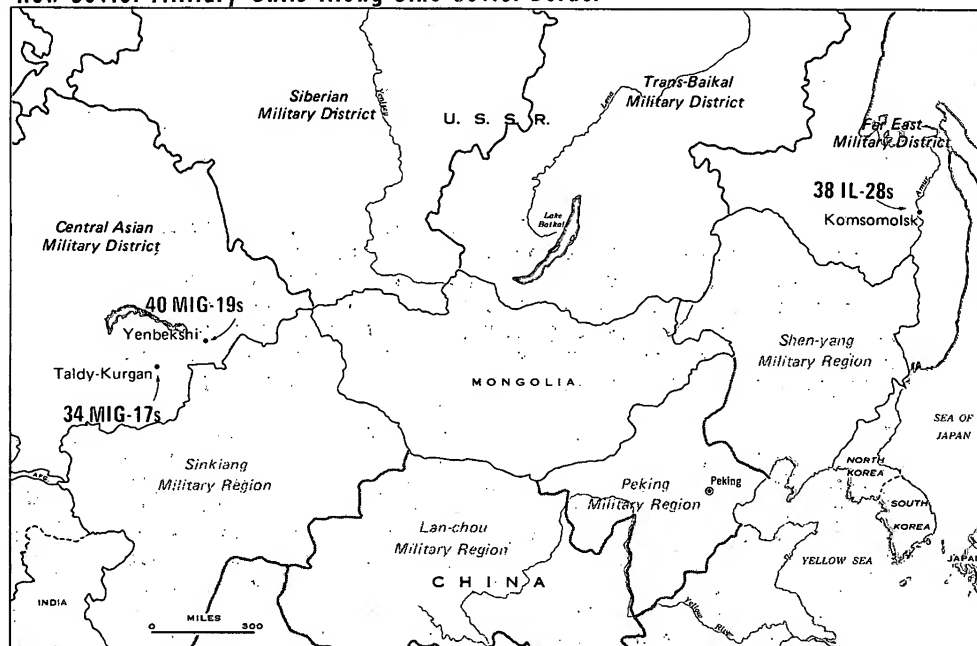
Yesterday's SALT meeting proceeded at the deliberate, businesslike pace which has characterized previous sessions of the second Helsinki round. Soviet delegation chief Semenov continued to spell out Moscow's position on a number of important points which the US had addressed at Vienna.

Semenov explicitly endorsed the concept of an ABM limitation to the National Command Authority level; in his words, "deployment of ABM systems in defense of Moscow and Washington only." This had been foreshadowed by Semenov's acceptance "in principle" of such a limitation last spring at Vienna. His speech yesterday, however, marked the first time that Moscow voiced acceptance of the concept of a limitation on antiballistic missiles as well as on launchers.

Proceeding to a much more fundamental and contentious issue, however, Semenov stressed once again Moscow's insistence that US forward-based nuclear systems be included in any discussion of strategic arms. He criticized US opposition to treatment of this question, and charged that US unwillingness to give it serious attention betrays "inequality" in its approach to the basic matter of which strategic systems must be considered. Semenov accused the US of seeking "unilateral advantages."

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New Soviet Military Units Along Sino-Soviet Border



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COMMUNIST CHINA - USSR

Recent satellite photography shows that the Soviets have deployed two new MIG fighter regiments in the Central Asian Military District opposite China's Sinkiang Province. In the Far East Military District, an IL-28 light bomber regiment was observed for the first time at Komsomolsk.

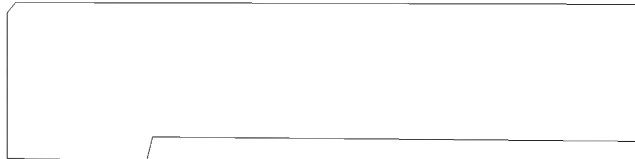
These deployments contribute to the gradual Soviet build-up on the Chinese border. The IL-28 regiment could be the one transferred to the Far East from the Soviet tactical air force in East Germany in late September. The IL-28 is considered obsolete against NATO air defenses, but it would still be useful in operations against China.

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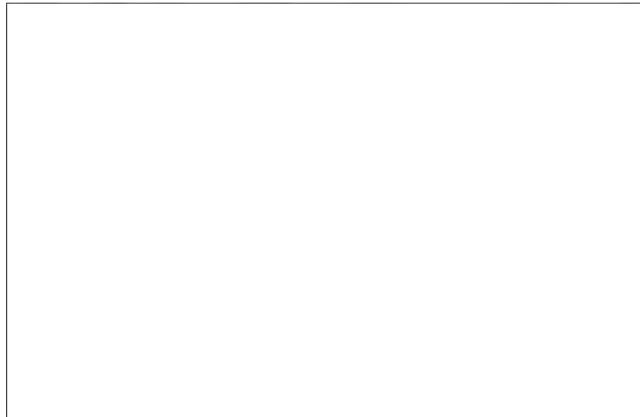
ITALY



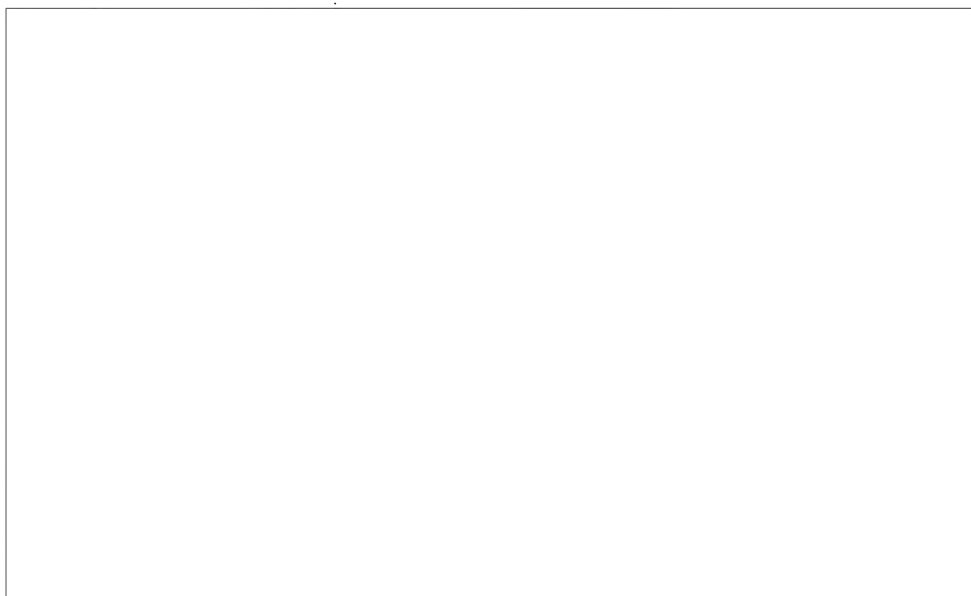
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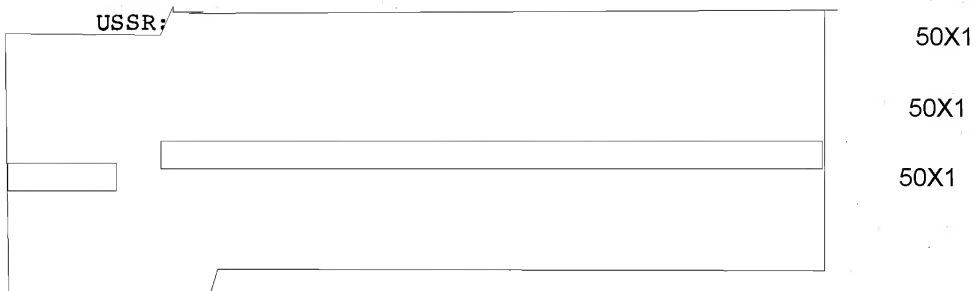
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NOTE



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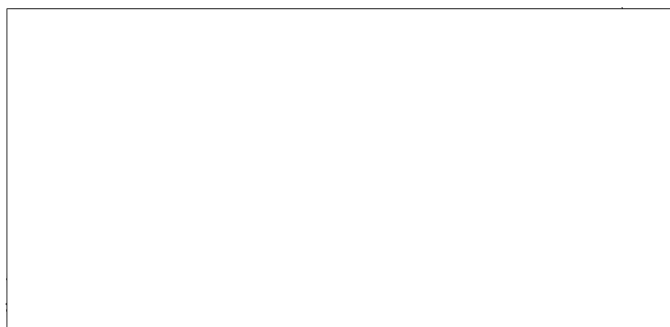
SYRIA



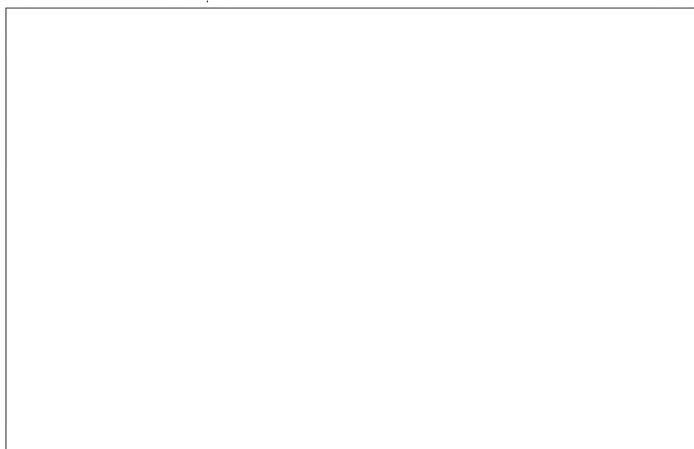
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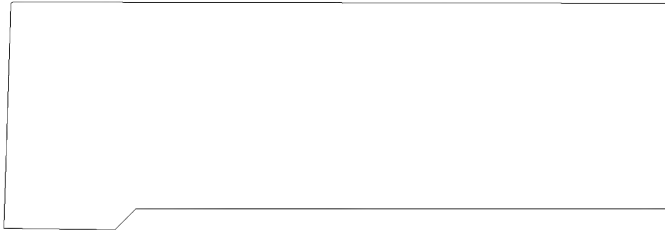
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